

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-14 USIE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 INT-08

SCEM-02 EB-11 CIEP-02 SCI-06 DRC-01 /183 W

----- 120309

O R 131234Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9240

USINT ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17919

ALGIERS, CAIRO FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, US, XG

SUBJECT: FRG REACTION TO SECRETARY'S INITIATIVE ON  
ENERGY ACTION GROUP

1. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL  
MINISTER HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET THE REACTIONS OF  
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LAHNSTEIN (CHANCELLOR'S ECONOMIC ADVISOR) AND

LANTZKE (ECONOMICS MINISTRY) TO THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVE ON AN ENERGY ACTION GROUP IN HIS PILGRIM SOCIETY SPEECH. BOTH THESE KEY OFFICIALS ON FRG ENERGY POLICY WELCOMED THE US INITIATIVE AND WERE CONFIDENT THE FRG'S REACTION WOULD BE POSITIVE. THEY BOTH ASSUMED OUR TIMING WAS DETERMINED BY THE EC SUMMIT, AND FOUND THIS HELPFUL. BOTH RAISED A QUESTION AS TO HOW THE FRENCH WOULD REACT, BUT SEEMED UNSURE THEMSELVES AS TO WHAT TO EXPECT FROM PARIS.

2. LAHNSTEIN NOTED THAT THE FRG WAS UNDER NO ILLUSION REGARDING EUROPE'S INABILITY TO RESOLVE ITS ENERGY SUPPLY PROBLEMS WITHOUT THE U.S. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT EUROPE'S ABILITY TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN TRANSATLANTIC ENERGY COOPERATION DEPENDED ON SOME RESOLUTION OF THE ENERGY ISSUES NOW DIVIDING THE EC. HE NOTED THAT THE CHANCELLOR WOULD PRESS AT THE SUMMIT FOR AN EC ENERGY PROGRAM OF SUBSTANCE AND COULD LINK THIS TO FRG COOPERATION ON OTHER EC MEASURES. LAHNSTEIN SEEMED TO THINK THAT THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVE WOULD INCREASE THE PRESSURE ON THE EC SUMMIT TO RESOLVE ITS INTERNAL ENERGY PROBLEMS.

3. LAHNSTEIN PARTICULARLY WELCOMED THE PROPOSED COORDINATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. HE SAID THAT URANIUM ENRICHMENT WAS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THE AREAS WHERE RATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR WAS NEEDED; COAL GASIFICATION WAS ANOTHER. LAHNSTEIN WELCOMED THE SECRETARY'S OFFER OF COOPERATION TO PRODUCING NATIONS CITING THAT NO ONE WANTED AN ANTI-OPEC BLOC. IF NEED BE, HE THOUGHT CONSUMING COUNTRIES COULD CITE THAT THEIR COMING TOGETHER TO DEAL WITH THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE FACT THAT "OIL IS NOT FOREVER" IS QUITE CONSISTENT WITH THE EXHORTATIONS THAT OPEC SECRETARY GENERAL KHENE, YAMANI AND OTHER PRODUCER SPOKESMEN HAVE MADE LATELY.

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